

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 21265 171841Z
ACTION OC-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CCO-00 A-01 /020 W
----- 047731 /73

R 171821Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4162
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USELM LIVE OAK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 21265

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PGOV ACOM GW US UK FR
SUBJECT: QUADRIGA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

REFS: (A) BONN 20487 (B) STATE 267024 BOTH NOTAL

BEGIN SUMMARY. THE BONN GROUP RECOMMENDS THAT THE QUADRIGA NET BE TESTED ON JANUARY 31, 1977 IN CONJUNCTION WITH LIVE OAK EXERCISE STEADFAST I. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THIS PROPOSAL.
END SUMMARY.

1. THE FRENCH, UK AND FRG REPS HAVE EXPRESSED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO THE DEPARTMENT'S CONDITIONS FOR RETAINING THE QUADRIGA NET. THE FRENCH BONN GROUP REP (BOISSIEU) HAS ASKED FOR A DEFINITION OF WHAT THE US MEANS BY "PRINCIPALS" AND WHAT THE US CONSIDERS A "RIGID TEST SCHEDULE."

2. DURING THE COURSE OF A PRE-EXERCISE BRIEFING FOR BONN GROUP REPS ON LIVE OAK CPX STEADFAST I ON DECEMBER 15, BOISSIEU OBSERVED THAT THERE WAS ALWAYS AN ELEMENT OF UNREALITY ABOUT SUCH EXERCISES. WHILE THE WAG MAKES DECISIONS ON THE SPOT DURING THE CPX,
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IN REAL LIFE THERE WOULD BE DELAYS WHILE WAG MEMBERS SOUGHT INSTRUCTIONS FROM CAPITALS. BOISSIEU WONDERED WHETHER IN STEADFAST I (JANUARY 26-FEBRUARY 1, 1977) OR IN SOME FUTURE EXERCISE THERE SHOULD NOT ALSO BE A TEST OF HOW LONG IT WOULD ACTUALLY TAKE TO OBTAIN DECISIONS FROM CAPITALS.

3. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE UK REP (HITCH) EXPRESSED THE IDEA THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO SCHEDULE A QUADRIGA TEST DURING STEADFAST I. BONN GROUP MEMBERS HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE SAME COMMUNICATORS WHO WOULD OPERATE QUADRIGA ALSO ARE INVOLVED IN LIVE OAK COMMUNICATIONS, AND THEY THEREFORE AGREED THAT THE HITCH SUGGESTION HAD CONSIDERABLE MERIT.

4. IN FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION AT THE DECEMBER 17 BONN GROUP MEETING, ALL REPS AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO CAPITALS THAT QUADRIGA BE TESTED AT 1500 GMT ON MONDAY, JANUARY 3L, 1977. THE TEST WOULD INVOLVE SUBSTANTIVE OFFICERS AT A SUITABLE LEVEL AND WOULD BE RELATED TO THE STATE OF PLAY IN CPX STEADFAST I.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THE ABOVE PROPOSAL, AND GUIDANCE FOR RESPONDING TO THE FRENCH QUESTIONS IN PARA ONE ABOVE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TELECOMMUNICATION, ALLIANCE, COMMUNICATION LINES, BERLIN QUADRIPARTITE MATTERS, LIVE OAK, MILITARY EXERCISES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BONN21265
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760465-0659
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761231/aaaabaex.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OC
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BONN 20487, 76 STATE 267024
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 FEB 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: QUADRIGA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, ACOM, GE, US, UK, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006